

**Introduced by Senator Lowenthal**

February 15, 2008

---

An act to amend Sections 14875 and 14877.1 of the Water Code, relating to graywater.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

SB 1258, as introduced, Lowenthal. Graywater standards.

Existing law requires the Department of Water Resources, on or before January 1, 1997, and in consultation with the State Department of Public Health and the Center for Irrigation Technology at California State University, Fresno, to adopt standards for the installation of graywater systems. Existing law defines "graywater," for the purposes of that provision, to include wastewater from bathtubs, showers, bathroom washbasins, clothes washing machines, and laundry tubs. Existing law requires the State Department of Public Health to establish uniform statewide recycling criteria for each varying type of use of recycled water if the use involves the protection of public health.

This bill would require the Department of Water Resources, on or before January 1, 2011, and in consultation with the State Department of Public Health, to adopt uniform statewide standards for each varying type of use of graywater if the use involves the protection of public health. The bill would prohibit the Department of Water Resources from establishing graywater standards that are more stringent than the criteria established by the State Department of Public Health for each type of recycled water use.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 14875 of the Water Code is amended to read:

14875. This chapter applies to the construction, installation, or alteration of graywater systems ~~for subsurface irrigation and other safe uses.~~

SEC. 2. Section 14877.1 of the Water Code is amended to read:

14877.1. (a) ~~On or before January 1, 1997, the~~ *The* department, in consultation with the State Department of *Public Health Services* and the Center for Irrigation Technology at California State University, Fresno, shall adopt standards for the installation of graywater systems. In adopting these standards, the department shall consider, among other resources, “Appendix J,” as adopted on September 29, 1992, by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, the graywater standard proposed for the latest edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code of the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, the City of Los Angeles Graywater Pilot Project Final Report issued in November 1992, and the advice of the Center for Irrigation Technology at California State University, Fresno, on the installation depth for subsurface drip irrigation systems.

(b) The department shall include among the approved methods of subsurface irrigation, but shall not be limited to, drip systems.

(c) The department shall revise its graywater systems standards as needed.

(d) *On or before January 1, 2011, the department, in consultation with the State Department of Public Health, shall adopt uniform statewide standards for each varying type of use of graywater if the use involves the protection of public health. The department shall not establish standards pursuant to this subdivision that are more stringent than the criteria established pursuant to Section 13521 for each varying type of recycled water use.*